



**Frederick County  
Government  
Frederick, Maryland**

# *News Release*

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## **Executive Gardner Urges Community to Provide Input in Shaping County Budget**

*Citizens invited to give feedback on priorities for Operating Budget*

FREDERICK, MD – Today County Executive Jan Gardner urged the community to provide input to help shape the budget and shared information to consider regarding [Operating Budget Requests](#) and [FY2018 Capital Budget and 6-Year CIP Requests](#) (available at [www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/executive](http://www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/executive)).

As part of open and transparent government, Executive Gardner announced an expansion of public outreach to gather feedback about the county budget through surveys on the county website. The surveys may be found by visiting [www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/budgetsurveys](http://www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/budgetsurveys), and will be available online until 5 p.m. on Monday, April 3. In addition, there is a public hearing scheduled for 7 p.m. on Monday, March 20, at Winchester Hall, 12 E. Church Street, Frederick, Md.

“How and where we spend our community’s money should reflect the community’s priorities and our values, and it should fit into our unified vision for the future of our community,” said Executive Gardner. “As part of open and transparent government, we are expanding our outreach to gather public input into the county budget through surveys on the county website in addition to the public hearing.”

Executive Jan Gardner presented highlights of the draft FY2018 Capital Budget, sharing good news about new schools, libraries, parks, road projects and other infrastructure projects. For example, she said the county’s priority school projects are on track and on budget. This includes Frederick High School, which will open in September, as well as Butterfly Ridge, Sugarloaf and Urbana Elementary Schools. A feasibility study for Waverley Elementary School and design of Rock Creek School are also scheduled for Fiscal Year 2018.

More school projects are included in the Capital Improvements Program budget for the out-years (construction of East County Elementary and design funding for Middletown Middle School and Liberty Elementary School). Frederick Community College is moving forward with revitalization of facilities, Frederick County Public Libraries is gearing up for new and replacement branches, and new park development and expansion are scheduled.

The budget public hearing will be televised on FCG TV, cable channel 19, and webcast on [www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/video](http://www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/video).

For more information, contact Budget Director Rick Harcum at 301-600-1628 or via e-mail at [rharcum@FrederickCountyMD.gov](mailto:rharcum@FrederickCountyMD.gov).

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